

Remarks

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4-19 and 21-23 are now pending in the application, with Claims 1, 17-19, 22 and 23 being independent. Claims 18 and 23 have been amended herein.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that Claims 1, 2, 4-17, 19, 21 and 22 are allowed. These claims have not been amended herein, thus remaining in condition for allowance.

Claims 18 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Without conceding the propriety of this rejection, Applicant has amended these claims in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 101 rejection and allowance of Claims 18 and 23 are requested.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mark A. Williamson', written over a horizontal line.

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